

73. A computer readable storage medium storing a program to make a computer perform an authentication by:

detecting a plurality of coordinates, input via a specifying member which specifies a plurality of discontinuous different coordinates; and

determining a relationship between the plurality of detected coordinates and a plurality of registered coordinates.

74. The storage medium as claimed in claim 73, wherein said determining further comprises:

comparing the plurality of detected coordinates and the plurality of registered coordinates and outputting a compared result, and

authenticating based on the compared result.

75. The storage medium as claimed in claim 73, wherein said determining further comprises:

comparing an order of the plurality of detected coordinates and an order of the plurality of registered coordinates and outputting a compared result of the orders, and

authenticating based on the compared result.

REMARKS

The above-referenced application filed on April 16, 2001 is a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the parent application having U.S. Serial No. 09/084,323 filed on May 26, 1998, now pending. In addition, foreign priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 is claimed to Japanese Application No. 9-264839, filed September 10, 1997 and Japanese Application No. 10-94592, filed April 7, 1998. A certified copy of the priority document was filed in the parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/348,166 with Examiner Jeffrey S. Leaning in Group/Art unit No. 2131.

Claims 1-75 are pending and under consideration.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 12-23, 26, 28-43, 46, 48-52, 65-73, 75-89, and 93-101 were canceled claims from the parent application, from which the above-referenced application claimed priority, and are presented for consideration in the present Preliminary Amendment as

renumbered claims 1-75. It is respectfully requested that claims 1-75 presented herein be considered as the pending claims for the above-referenced application.

**CONCLUSION:**

Accordingly, there being no other outstanding objections or rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 15, 2001

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